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Leaders in parallel software development tools

Large Scale Debugging on Titan and Mira with Allinea DDT

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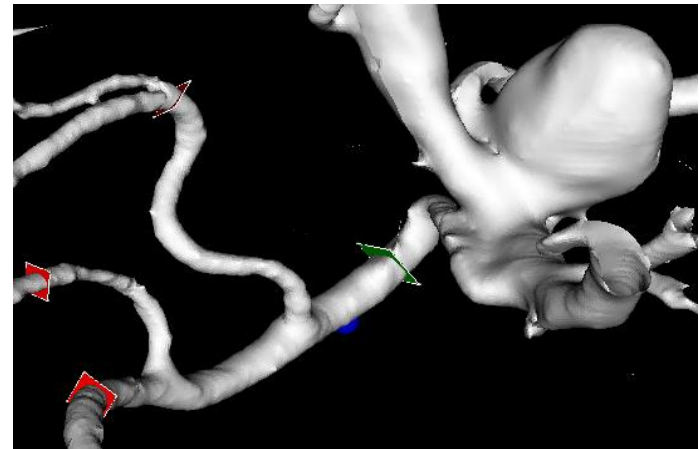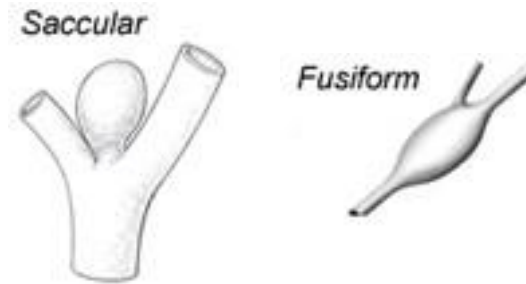
Why?

Allinea's Tools

Reduce
Development Time

Increase Application
Performance

Understand Application
Behaviour

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HPC could be brain surgery

- **Brain aneurysms**
  - 2-5% of population – most are undiagnosed
  - 30,000 rupture in US each year – 40% fatal
  - Early discovery and treatment increases survival rates

- **Neurosurgery as HPC**
  - MRI provides the blood vessel structure
  - Intra-cranial blood flow and pressures is just complex CFD
  - Full brain 3D model is 2-10GB geometry

Saccular

Fusiform

Impact of Petascale and Beyond

- Individualized HPC
  - Patient's MRI scan enables surgical decision: whether to operate, how to operate, …
  - Circle of Willis requires super-Petascale ~~machine~~ software
  - Need answer in minutes or hours
- Machines can do 20 PetaFLOPs
  - Super-Petascale will be affordable soon
  - Software has to scale

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Real scaling challenge

- Crashes at 49,152 cores on Cray XC30
    - Error message "Terminated". Thanks.

- Now what?
    - Try other (inferior?) partitioner?
    - Invest weeks in bug fix by trial and error?
    - Write own partitioning library?

- Why use a debugger?
    - It's about time

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Debugging in practice…

Some types of bug

Bohrbug	Steady, dependable bug
Heisenbug	Vanishes when you try to debug (observe)
Mandelbug	Complexity and obscurity of the cause is so great that it appears chaotic
Schroedinbug	First occurs after someone reads the source file and deduces that it never worked, after which the program ceases to work

Print statement debugging

- The first debugger: print statements
  - Each process prints a message or value at defined locations
  - Diagnose the problem from evidence and intuition
- A long slow process
  - Analogous to bisection root finding
- Broken at modest scale
  - Too much output – too many log files

$f(x)$

x

Bug fixing as scale increases

Reproduce at a smaller scale?

Reduced data set - may not trigger the problem?

Didn't you already try the code at small scale?

Is it a system issue?

Is probability stacking up against you?

Debugging at extreme scale is a necessity

Extreme machines are everywhere

CPU Cores chart showing No. 1, No. 100, No. 500 from 2010 to 2014

Machine sizes are exploding

Software scale grows as machines grow

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Titan and Mira

Titan

- 18,688 nodes
- 18,688 NVIDIA Kepler K20 GPUs
- 299,008 CPU cores
- 50,233,344 CUDA cores

Mira

- 49,152 nodes
- 786,432 cores
- 3,145,728 hardware threads

Does the printf workflow "work"?

ALCF, OLCF and Allinea deliver

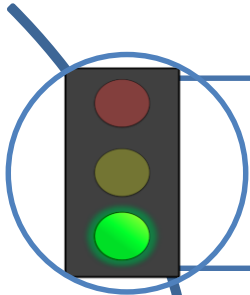2009 - Allinea and Oak Ridge begin collaboration to provide super-Petascale debugging

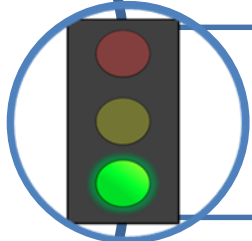2010 - Allinea and Argonne collaboration to extend scaling to BlueGene systems

2013 - Mira and Titan full size debugging in place

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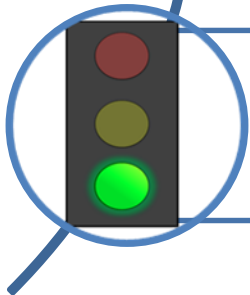# What you should expect (demand!) for debugging at scale

Scalability
- A debugger that works to at least as high a scale as you need

Hardware and software support
- Whatever software you use and wherever you use it – the debugger supports it

Assistance
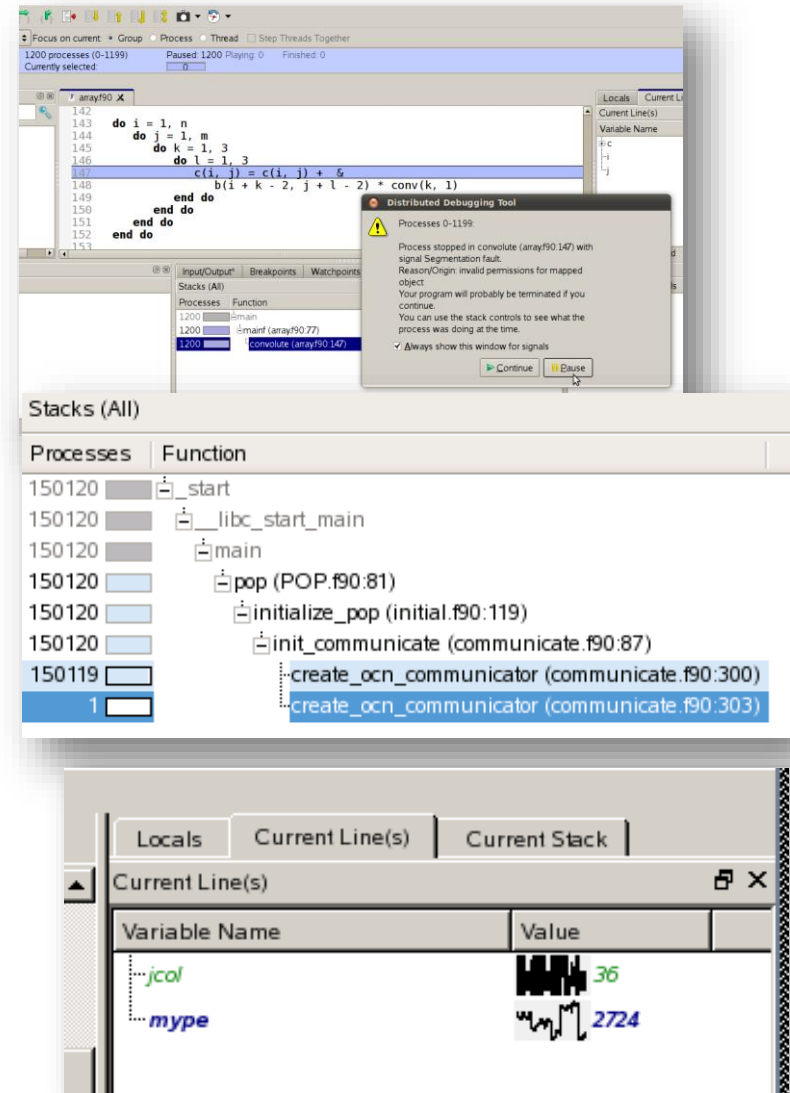- Debugger is installed, configured, and documented – with site experts and training

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Allinea DDT
Fix software problems, fast

- **Powerful graphical debugger designed for :**

    – C/C++, Fortran, UPC, …

    – MPI, OpenMP and mixed-mode code

    – Accelerators and coprocessors: CUDA

    and Intel Xeon Phi

- **Unified interface with Allinea MAP :**

    – One interface eliminates learning curve

    – Spend more time on your results

- **Slash your time to debug**

    – Reproduces and triggers your bugs instantly

    – Helps you easily understand where issues come from quickly

    – Helps you to fix them as swiftly as possible

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Allinea DDT: Scalable debugging by design

- ***Where* did it happen?**
  - Allinea DDT leaps to source automatically
  - Merges stacks from processes and threads

- ***How* did it happen?**
  - Some faults evident instantly from source

- ***Why* did it happen?**
  - Real-time data comparison and consolidation
  - Unique "Smart Highlighting" – colouring differences and changes
  - Sparklines comparing data across processes

- ***Force* crashes to happen?**
  - Memory debugging makes many random bugs appear every time

Five great things to try with Allinea DDT

The scalable print alternative

Stop on variable change

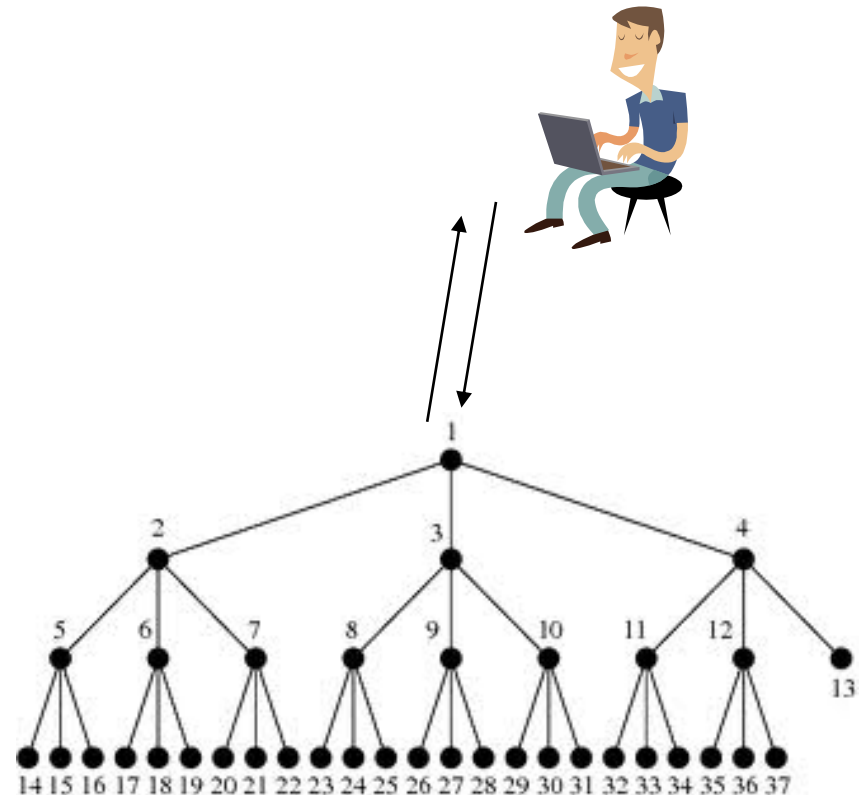Static analysis warnings on code errors
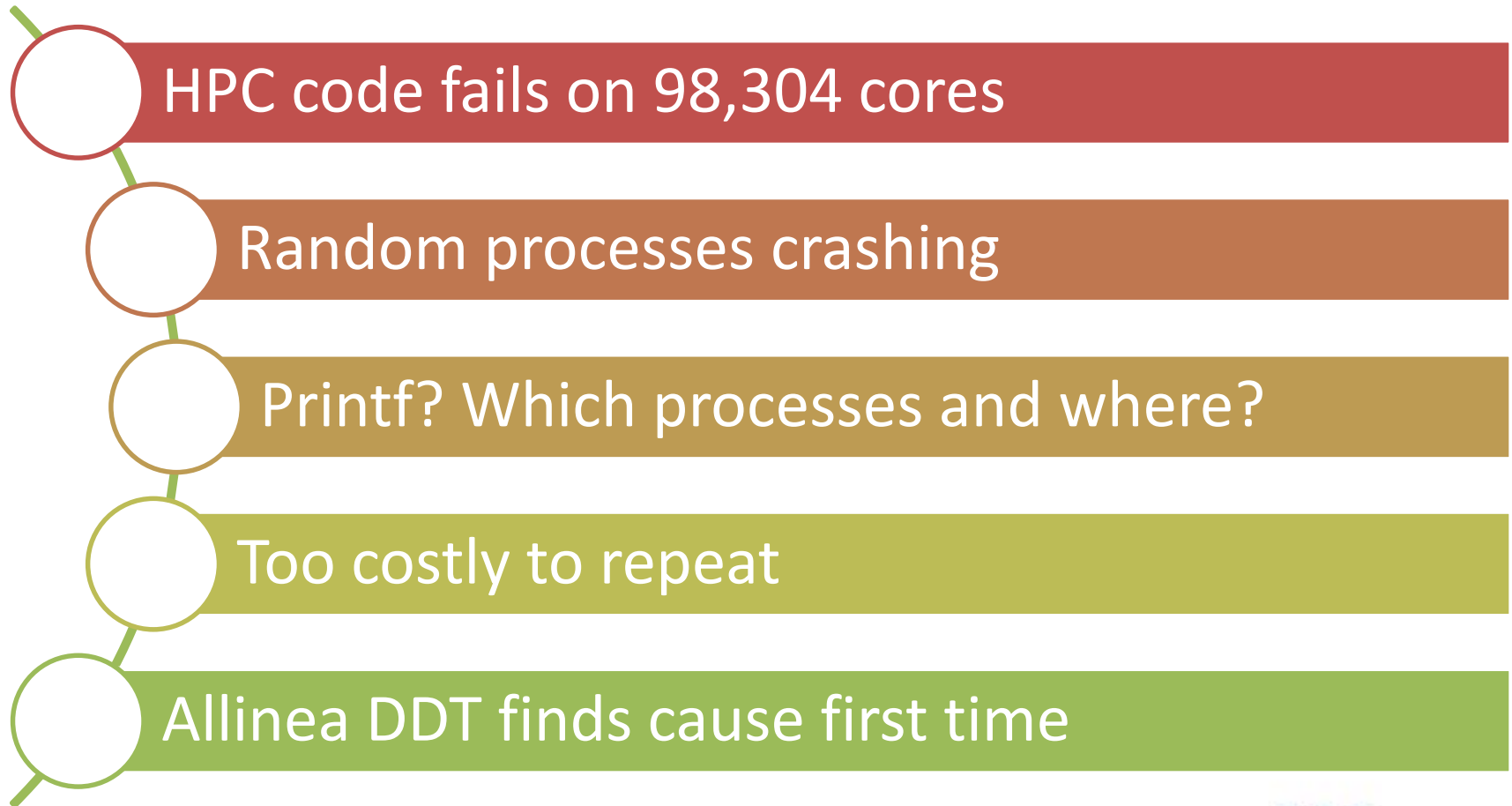

Detect read/write beyond array bounds

Detect stale memory allocations

Beneath the Petascale Allinea DDT

- Scalable tree network
  - Sends bulk commands and merge responses
  - Aggregations maintain the essence of the information
  - Step 100,000 processes? 100-150ms

- Usability matters
  - The interface is as important as the speed
  - Focus on scalable components

Example – ORNL's Titan

- HPC code fails on 98,304 cores
- Random processes crashing
- Printf? Which processes and where?
- Too costly to repeat
- Allinea DDT finds cause first time

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Offline debugging

- Interactive access difficult

- Use offline mode
  - Submit and forget

- Post-mortem analysis

Example – ANL Mira

HPC code fails on 16,384 cores

Code abandoned – bug couldn't be fixed

Machine too busy for interactive debugging

Allinea DDT offline mode runs bug case overnight

Found error in initialization

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Interlude: Local Demonstration

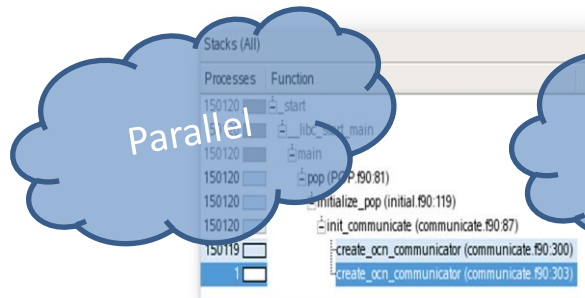- ## Simple persistent hanging
  - Stepping through a code

- ## Process count dependent hanging:
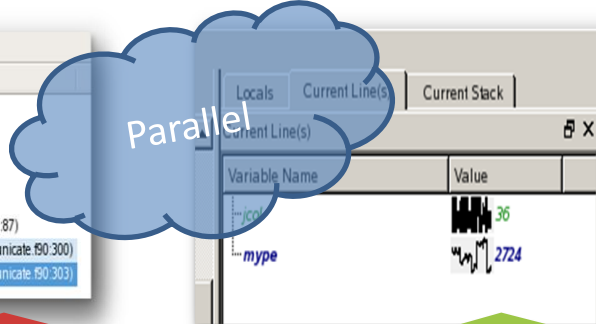 - Attaching to the running job

Getting started on Titan

- How?

  module load ddt

  ddt

- Congratulations, you are now ready to debug.

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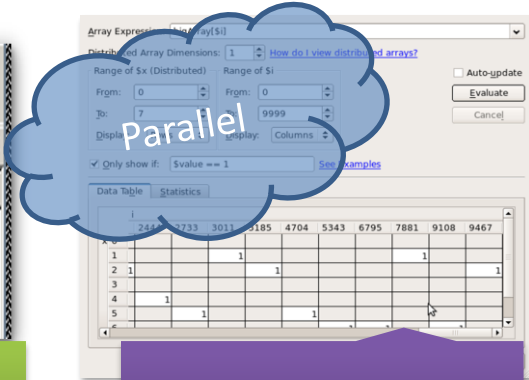
Getting started on Mira/Tukey

- Install local client on your laptop
  - www.allinea.com/downloads
    - Linux – installs full set of tools
    - Windows, Mac – just a remote client to the remote system
  - Run the installation and software
  - "Connect to remote host"
  - Hostname:
    - username@cetus.alcf.anl.gov

    - username@tukey.alcf.anl.gov

  - Remote installation directory: /soft/debuggers/ddt
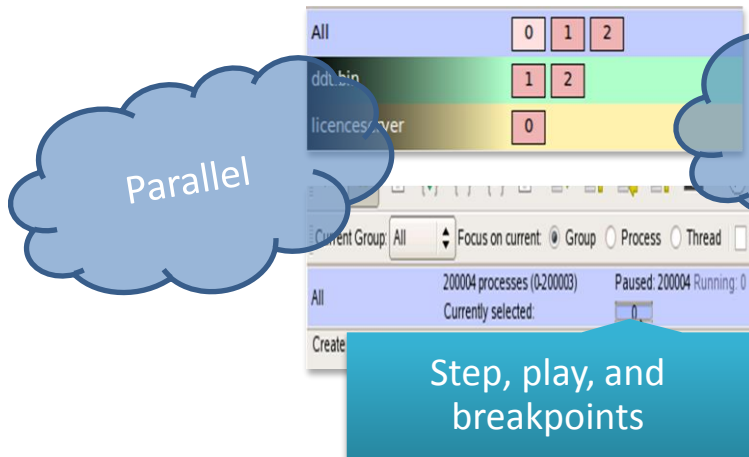 - Click Test
- Congratulations you are now ready to debug.

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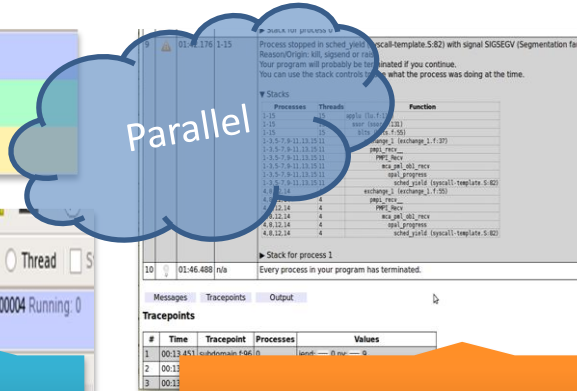www.allinea.com

Favorite Allinea DDT Features for Scale

Parallel stack view

Automated data comparison: sparklines

Parallel array searching

Step, play, and breakpoints

Offline debugging

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Summary

Debugging at scale is not difficult

- 300,000 cores is as easy as 30 cores
- The user interface is vital to success

Debugging at scale is not slow

- High performance debugging – at Mira and Titan scale
- Logarithmic performance

Stable, in production and well supported

- Routinely used over 100,000 cores